

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A digital camera, comprising:
2 an image playback system that presents a representation of an image, wherein
3 magnification logic responsive to a user preferred magnification step is applied to
4 image information used to generate the representation;
5 a magnification control including a zoom in switch and a zoom out switch to
6 effect respective zoom in and zoom out operations on the representation; and
7 a position control including an up switch, a down switch, a left switch, and a
8 right switch to effect respective up, down, left, and right pan operations on the
9 representation.
- 1 2. The digital camera of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a transfer control to effect a transfer operation of the image information
3 associated with the representation as modified by the magnification and position
4 controls to a device communicatively coupled to the digital camera.
- 1 3. The digital camera of claim 1, wherein the magnification logic applies
2 a discrete magnification step proximal to a midpoint of the digital camera's range for
3 digitally magnifying the image information.
- 1 4. The digital camera of claim 1, wherein operation of successive zoom in
2 and zoom out operations, respectively occur in sufficiently small increments so as to
3 be perceived by the user as continuous.
- 1 5. The digital camera of claim 1, further comprising logic for identifying
2 that portion of the image information responsible for the representation.
- 1 6. The digital camera of claim 5, wherein the logic for identifying is
2 responsive to the transfer control and presents visible indicia on the unmodified
3 representation to demark a select portion of the image information.

1 7. The digital camera of claim 6, wherein the transfer operation forwards
2 the select portion of the image information.

1 8. The digital camera of claim 1, further comprising:
2 an image acquisition system; and
3 a shutter that triggers the image acquisition system to acquire and index image
4 information responsive to light incident upon an image sensor while the image
5 playback means is active.

1 9. A method for editing image information with a digital camera,
2 comprising:
3 identifying image information;
4 generating a representation of the image information;
5 magnifying the representation using a discrete magnification step proximal to
6 a midpoint of the digital camera's range for digitally magnifying the image
7 information to produce a modified representation of the image information;
8 presenting the modified representation of the image information;
9 controllably magnifying the modified representation responsive to a
10 magnification control associated with the digital camera; and
11 controllably panning across the modified representation such that preferred
12 subject matter is observable in a desired representation.

1 10. The method of claim 9, further comprising:
2 controllably transferring that portion of the image information corresponding
3 to the desired representation.

1 11. The method of claim 9, wherein the step of controllably magnifying
2 results in the presentation of successive modified representations of the image
3 information that give the impression to a user that magnification is continuous.

1 12. The method of claim 9, further comprising:
2 activating the discrete magnification step via a menu selection.

1 13. The method of claim 9, further comprising:
2 enabling the image acquisition system to acquire image information
3 responsive to light incident on an image sensor concurrently with any one of the
4 identifying, generating, magnifying, panning, and transferring steps.

1 14. A computer-readable medium having a program for editing image
2 information, the program comprising logic for:
3 acquiring image information;
4 indexing the image information such that the image information can be
5 processed;
6 magnifying a representation of the image information responsive to a discrete
7 magnification step that results in a first magnified representation, the discrete
8 magnification step proximal to a midpoint of the digital camera's range for digitally
9 magnifying the image information;
10 presenting the first magnified representation;
11 magnifying the first magnified representation, when desired, to generate a
12 second magnified representation responsive to a control input, wherein magnifying
13 the first magnified representation is perceptually continuous over a magnification
14 range; and
15 panning across the second magnified representation, when desired, such that
16 preferred subject matter is observable in a desired representation.

1 15. The computer-readable medium of claim 14, further comprising logic
2 for:
3 transferring that portion of the image information corresponding to the desired
4 representation.

1 16. The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the logic for
2 transferring forwards the select portion of the image information to a device
3 communicatively coupled to a digital camera.

1 17. The computer-readable medium of claim 14, further comprising logic
2 for generating a menu.

1 18. The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the logic for
2 generating a menu activates a menu option that when selected further activates the
3 discrete magnification step.

1 19. The computer-readable medium of claim 14, further comprising logic
2 for identifying that portion of the image information responsible for the
3 representation.

1 20. The computer-readable medium of claim 14, further comprising logic
2 for generating a transfer control that presents visible indicia on the unmodified
3 representation to demark a select portion of the image information.

1 21. The computer-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the logic for
2 acquiring information is accessible and executable concurrently with logic for
3 indexing, presenting, magnifying, panning, and transferring image information.

1 22. A digital camera, comprising:
2 means for presenting a representation of an image responsive to a user
3 preferred initial magnification step, wherein the user preferred initial magnification
4 step is applied to image information to generate the representation;
5 means for effecting zoom in and zoom out operations on the representation;
6 and
7 means for effecting up, down, left, and right pan operations on the
8 representation.

1 23. The digital camera of claim 22, further comprising:
2 means for effecting a transfer of the image information associated with the
3 representation as modified by the means for effecting zoom in and zoom out
4 operations and means for effecting up, down, left, and right pan operations to a device
5 communicatively coupled to the digital camera.

1 24. The digital camera of claim 23, wherein the means for effecting zoom
2 in and zoom out operations on the representation applies magnification steps in
3 sufficiently small increments so as to be perceived by the user as continuous.

1 25. The digital camera of claim 23, further comprising:
2 means for identifying that portion of the image information responsible for the
3 representation.

1 26. The digital camera of claim 25, wherein the means for identifying is
2 responsive to the means for effecting a transfer of the image information and presents
3 visible indicia on the unmodified representation to demark a select portion of the
4 image information.

1 27. The digital camera of claim 26, wherein the means for effecting a
2 transfer of image information forwards the select portion of the image information.

1 28. The digital camera of claim 22, wherein the means for presenting
2 applies a discrete magnification step proximal to a midpoint of the digital camera's
3 range for digitally magnifying the image information.

1 29. The digital camera of claim 22, further comprising:
2 means for acquiring image information; and
3 means for triggering the means for acquiring image information such that the
4 means for acquiring indexes image information responsive to light incident upon an
5 image sensor while the means for presenting is active.